

REMARKS:

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-13 were rejected. Claims 11 and 13 have been amended for clarification. New claim 14 and 15 have been added. Thus, claims 1-15 are pending and under consideration. No new matter has been added. The rejections are traversed below.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b):

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,915,240('240).

'240 discusses a system for accessing medical information from a medical lookup server (MedLkUp-server) using a medical lookup client (MedLkup-client) directly connected thereto, where the MedLkup-client maintains a local database of the medical information.

The present invention is directed to obtaining information from a server storing attribute information indicative of attribute and structure of information and/or service for providing the same to a user via a portal server.

The Examiner compares the '240 system that accesses medical information stored locally for providing the same to users with the present invention. The '240 system includes a MedLkUp-server that maintains a central database for medical information, a MedLkup-client that maintains a local database of the medical information, and a MedCall-server for a real-time keyboard-entered and typed conversation (see, column 2, lines 52-59 and column 3, lines 5-8 of '240). As shown in FIG. 1 of '240, the MedLkup-client is directly connected with both the MedLkUp-server and the MedCall-server over a computer network (see also, column 5, lines 3-12 of '240). The MedCall-server allows the user to engage in a real-time keyboard-entered and typed conversation using the network, between the user of the MedLkup-client and a person at a help site who can provide expert assistance to the user (see, column 3, lines 5-8 of '240).

As recited in independent claims 1 and 12, the operations of the portal server of the present invention include, "obtaining additional information stored" and "storing additional information obtained", where the portal server obtains "in response to a request from the client, appropriate additional information... for creating display data" and sends the "display data created... to the client which made a request". Further, independent claims 10, 12 and 13 recite, "an information disclosing server storing contents [and] additional information indicating the respective attributes of contents" (claims 10 and 11) and "a portal server obtaining additional

information stored in the information disclosing server”, “storing additional information obtained” and “creating display data” based on the additional information (claim 13). Unlike the MedLkUp-server and MedCall-server of ‘240, the portal server obtains “additional information stored in the information disclosing server” and creates “display data” for sending to the client, and a user using the present invention is provided with data stored an information disclosing server through a portal server, where the MedLkUp-server of ‘240 directly communicates with a MedLkUp-client directly.

It is submitted that the independent claims 1 and 10-13 are patentable over ‘240.

For at least the above-mentioned reasons, claims depending from independent claims 1 and 10-13 are patentably distinguishable over ‘240. The dependent claims are also independently patentable. For example, as recited in claim 2, the additional information is stored by “creating folders having a hierarchical structure which corresponds to the logical structure of the contents and by storing the respective attributes of the contents in each of the folders”. The ‘240 method does not teach or suggest providing portal and information disclosing servers (claims 1), where additional information is stored by “creating folders having a hierarchical structure which corresponds to the logical structure of the contents and by storing the respective attributes of the contents in each of the folders”.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIM:

New claim 14 is added to emphasize that the present invention includes, “A portal server” where the portal server includes “an additional information acquiring unit obtaining additional information stored in a storage unit of the information disclosing server” and “a storage unit provided to the portal server storing the obtained additional information”. Further, the portal server includes, “a display data creating unit acquiring the stored additional information for creating display data upon receipt of a request from a client”, where “the created display data is sent to the client based on the receipt of the request from the client”.

New claim 15 is added to highlight that the present invention's method of acquiring information of contents includes, “acquiring a requested content from the information disclosing server and creating a corresponding file in the portal server” for displaying data to a user “based on the created file in the portal server”, where “the contents of the file are organized based on the stored logical structure and the displayed data is customized based on changes to the file in the portal server by the user”. This allows the present invention to reduce/prevent network

congestion in comparison to systems that store the entire information obtained based on a request.

Proper support for new claim 15 can be found in the specification at least at page 9, line 5 through page 11, line 4 and FIG. 2.

It is respectfully asserted that independent claims 14 and 15 are patentably distinguishable over '240.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.


Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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